

## **TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK BIRD COUNTS AUGUST, 2023**

There was an addition this month. 31 surveys were conducted over 185 hours. For the month 118 species noted as against 122 for 2021. So far this year 237 species seen with 320 ever. The best days were 4,213 birds on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 54 species on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

No real weather for pelagics this month but on the 3<sup>rd</sup> had 1 Cory's Shearwater and one Band-rumped Storm-Petrel. Brown Pelicans peaked at 127 on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Least Bittern on the 9<sup>th</sup> with two on the 14<sup>th</sup> (a new high count), then one heard on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a Reddish Egret on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Green Herons were recorded on nine dates with three on the 26<sup>th</sup> and four on the 31<sup>st</sup> (a joint high count). Single Black-crowned Night-Herons noted on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. One to three Yellow-crowned Night-Herons seen all month with six on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 14 on the 31<sup>st</sup> (a new high count). White Ibis peaked at 16 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 38 on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Glossy Ibis were seen on ten dates with 27 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were two Roseate Spoonbills on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Single Wood Storks seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> with one to three daily from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. For the vultures there were 47 Black on the 31<sup>st</sup> and 122 Turkey on the same date.

A Muscovy Duck flew south over the river on the 29<sup>th</sup>. For the Blue-winged Teal there were seven on the 15<sup>th</sup>, two on the 18<sup>th</sup>, eight on the 19<sup>th</sup> and two on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There were single Swallow-tailed Kites on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were two Mississippi Kites on the 18<sup>th</sup>. An adult Bald Eagle was seen on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a light morph Short-tailed Hawk on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Next comes the new species there was a Clapper Rail calling by the river on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There was an American Golden-Plover on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There were two Semipalmated Plovers on the 6<sup>th</sup> with one on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Black-necked Stilts were seen on six dates with 14 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15 on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There was an American Avocet on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There was also a Greater Yellowlegs on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was one Lesser Yellowlegs on the 17<sup>th</sup> with two on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a Solitary Sandpiper on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Single Spotted Sandpipers were seen on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. There was a Marbled Godwit on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There was a Red Knot on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen on five dates from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> with 20 on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There were two Western Sandpipers on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There were two Least Sandpipers on the 1<sup>st</sup> with singles on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. There were two Pectoral Sandpipers on the 11<sup>th</sup> with two more on the 14<sup>th</sup>. There was a Stilt Sandpiper on the 17<sup>th</sup>. A Short-billed Dowitcher was seen on the 11<sup>th</sup> with 18 on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 16 on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Ring-billed Gull on the 5<sup>th</sup>. There was a Caspian Tern on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Royal Terns peaked at 37 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 36 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Common Terns were seen on 15 dates with 26 on

the 30<sup>th</sup>. Least Terns were seen on 14 dates with eight on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Black Terns were seen on 16 dates with 42 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 96 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 84 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Black Skimmers were seen on six dates no more than two a day.

There was a Yellow-billed Cuckoo on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There was a Great Horned Owl on the 19<sup>th</sup> with two on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Common Nighthawk on the 1<sup>st</sup>. A female Chuck-will's-widow was present all month with two females on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Chimney Swifts peaked at 16 on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Single Belted Kingfishers were seen on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> with two on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Downy Woodpeckers were seen on 14 dates up to three a day. There was a Northern Flicker on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Single Pileated Woodpeckers were seen on seven dates. There was an Eastern Wood-Pewee on the 31<sup>st</sup> sixth record for the park. There was also a Great Crested Flycatcher on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Eastern Kingbirds were seen on six days with 13 on the 25<sup>th</sup>. There were single Gray Kingbirds on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 14<sup>th</sup>. One to two Loggerhead Shrikes were present all month with three on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Yellow-throated Vireo on the 20<sup>th</sup>. American Crows peaked at nine on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There were single Purple Martins on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> with two on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There were single Tree Swallows on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Northern Rough-winged Swallows were seen on nine dates with 14 on the 16<sup>th</sup> a new high count. Bank Swallows were noted on eight dates with five on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 305 on the 8<sup>th</sup> (a new high count), then 155 seen on the 9<sup>th</sup> with 80 on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 76 on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 28 on the 16<sup>th</sup> and five on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Cliff Swallows were seen on nine dates from the 8<sup>th</sup>. There were 12 on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> with 25 on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 1,015 on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 2,335 on the 18<sup>th</sup> (\*a very high new high count). Later only singles seen on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. The higher Barn Swallow counts were 800 on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 1,475 on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 1,025 on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Carolina Chickadee on the 1<sup>st</sup>. There was a Tufted Titmouse on the 14<sup>th</sup> with a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher on the 4<sup>th</sup>. In the dark there was one Veery on the 24<sup>th</sup> with three on the 31<sup>st</sup>. On the 31<sup>st</sup> there was also a Swainson's Thrush. The last Brown Thrasher was seen on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Single Northern Parula were seen on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. There was a Yellow Warbler on the 11<sup>th</sup>. There was a Yellow-throated Warbler on the 5<sup>th</sup>. There were two Prairie Warblers on the 20<sup>th</sup> with one on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There were two American Redstarts on the 20<sup>th</sup> with one on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a Common Yellowthroat on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Blue Grosbeak on the 29<sup>th</sup>. On the 31<sup>st</sup> in the dark three Bobolinks heard. House Finches peaked at 21 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 18 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Even House Sparrows got in on the act there was a new high count with 57 on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Harry Robinson